

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-16 (Cancelled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical oral dosage unit containing at least 10 µg of a steroid selected from the group consisting of 15-hydroxytestosterones, precursors thereof, mixtures thereof and precursors of said mixtures; and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein said oral dosage unit is selected from the group consisting of a tablet, a capsule and a sachet, wherein the precursors of the hydroxytestosterones are derivatives of the hydroxytestosterones wherein a hydrogen atom of at least one hydroxyl group has been substituted by an acyl radical of a hydrocarbon carboxylic, sulfonic or sulfamic acid of 1-25 carbon atoms; tetrahydrofuranyl; tetrahydropyranal; or a straight or branched chain glycosidic residue containing 1-20 glycosidic units per residue, and wherein the pharmaceutical oral dosage unit is orally active.

Claim 18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the steroid is selected from the group consisting of 15 α -hydroxytestosterone, precursors thereof, mixtures of 15 α -hydroxytestosterone, and precursors of these mixtures of these hydroxytestosterones.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the steroid is selected from the group consisting of 15 β -hydroxytestosterone, precursors thereof, mixtures of 15 β -hydroxytestosterone, and precursors of these mixtures of these hydroxytestosterones.

Claim 22 (Cancelled).

Claim 23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Cancelled).

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the oral dosage unit is a tablet.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the oral dosage unit contains between 20 μg and 1000 mg of the androgenic steroid.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the oral dosage unit additionally contains at least 10 μg of a progestogen and/or at least 10 μg of an estrogen.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A method of therapeutically treating androgen deficiency in a mammal, said method comprising oral administration to said mammal of the oral dosage unit according to claim 17.

Claim 29 (Cancelled).

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 28, wherein the method comprises the administration of the steroid in an average daily amount in the range of 0.5 μg to 1.5 mg per kg of bodyweight.

Claim 31 (Cancelled).